

## HandsOn Greater Phoenix, VISTA

2012-2013

### Phoenix, Arizona

### Federal Legislative Districts 5, 7, 9

#### PROGRAM FAST FACTS

**Congressional District(s): 7**  
**State Legislative District(s): 24**  
**Service Area by County/City: Maricopa**  
**Project Federal Share: \$493,894**  
**Project Local Match: \$68,112**  
**Community Volunteers Recruited: 2,667**  
**Volunteer Hours Served: 9,335**  
**Value of Volunteer Hours: \$187,446.80**  
\*2011 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$20.08

#### **Community Need**

For more than 20 years, HandsOn has worked with nonprofits, low-income schools, neighborhood associations and government entities to assess and meet the volunteer needs of the Greater Phoenix area. Those needs are greater now, than ever before, as volunteers fill the demand for an increase in services. According to the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits report *Borderline: Hope and Concern for Arizona Nonprofits* (2012), on average, Arizona organizations served 16 percent more residents in 2011 than the year before, with a majority serving 20 percent more.

By placing trained VISTA members in the role of volunteer or program coordinator at multiple sites, HandsOn Greater Phoenix (HandsOn) infuses volunteer management competency into the community in a cost-effective manner. VISTAs enable our community partners to build lasting infrastructure by creating the processes and tools needed to effectively access and utilize valuable volunteer resources. At the same time, more opportunities are created for community volunteers to engage in meaningful service to under-resourced communities and meet the demand for more services.

#### **National Priority Area: Capacity Building**

HandsOn VISTA members engage additional community volunteers to sustain or expand the delivery of critical services to under-served communities. In total through all sites, our goal is that 3,000 additional volunteers will be engaged in 18,000 hours of service to support 37,000 low-income clients.

#### **Program Activities**

Our host site partners lack the volunteer infrastructure necessary to successfully meet service delivery demands and successfully serve individuals and families living in poverty. Through a collaborative model that shares best practices around volunteer engagement and management, our VISTA members successfully leverage more human capital through volunteer programs to ease the economic hardships faced by both our nonprofit partners and their clients.



## Program Impact

HandsOn VISTA members build the service capacity of their host sites by developing or enhancing volunteer and/or programmatic infrastructure to better serve communities living in poverty. In 2013, 95% of host sites reported an ability to increase services to low-income clients as a result of their members' activities. National service member success story:

*VISTA members Lani Horiuchi and Kira Anderson, serving with Maricopa Integrated Health System (MIHS) in Phoenix, Arizona learned of the need for education about the Affordable Care Act and organized an outreach program for MIHS patients. The underserved community that MIHS serves may benefit from the new health care laws, but many do not understand how it can help their health. Since starting with MIHS in August, 2013, Lani and Kira have organized a campaign to connect with over 13,000 patients by mail and 500 by phone, educating them on the Affordable Care Act, how it will affect the patients, and what options are available. Because of this campaign many patients were thrilled to learn that their health care could soon be covered with low to no premiums.*



## Mission

HandsOn Greater Phoenix empowers people to become engaged, take action and create positive change.

## Vision

We envision a day in which all people realize their power to make a difference and are actively engaged in their communities.

## Partnerships

City of Phoenix  
City of Mesa/Mesa Public Schools  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix  
National Service Partners: Alliance for Arizona Nonprofits, Prescott College-Arizona Serve, Department of Economic Security



*VISTA members breaking ground on new garden beds at City of Phoenix public housing complexes during AmeriCorps Week 2013*

## History

HandsOn has been engaging volunteers in service to the Greater Phoenix community since 1993. We currently engage more than 24,000 volunteers giving 70,000 hours of service to more than 400 community service partners. From 1999- 2002 HandsOn Greater Phoenix was part of the HandsOn Network national direct AmeriCorps Promise Fellow program. Starting in 2003, HandsOn Greater Phoenix participated in the HandsOn Network national direct Citizen Action AmeriCorps program, placing members in service within our nonprofit partner organizations. In 2009 HandsOn transitioned from the AmeriCorps State program into AmeriCorps VISTA, which allowed us to build the capacity of our nonprofit and government agency partners to serve additional low-income clients. Over the course of our national service history, we have successfully engaged more than 130 AmeriCorps members in service to meet critical community needs.

## Other Information

HandsOn Phoenix VISTA members also serve as Volunteer Leaders within the community beyond their full-time VISTA position expectations, engaging 4,000 additional community volunteer in service to the community.